

CONCANNON WINERY
4590 Tesla Road
Livermore
Alameda County
California

HALS CA-34
CA-34

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY

CONCANNON WINERY

HALS NO. CA-34

Location: 4590 Tesla Road, Livermore, Alameda County, CA
Lat: 37.66687 Long: -121.74030

Significance: Concannon Winery is California Historical Landmark No. 641. It was founded in 1883 by James Concannon an Irish immigrant, and is known as "America's First Irish Winery". This is one of the earliest vineyards in the Livermore Valley, and one of the oldest continuously operated vineyards in the country.

History: Concannon Winery is currently 200 acres in the Livermore Valley in California. It is a flat landscape surrounded by hills in the distance. When James Concannon first planted vines the soil was rocky but the climate was ideal for growing grapes. Today stone walls enclose the vineyard and there are at least 3 gates of various vintages. The property includes historic and new buildings associated with the winery including the original Victorian-style home that has recently been relocated on the property and is undergoing an "insensitive" rehabilitation. A 100-foot tall flag pole installed by Joseph Concannon Sr. to honor those who fought in WWII, was installed in 1939 and remains.

Much of the land is planted in a variety of actively producing grape vines. Concannon is most known for its Petit Sirah originally planted in 1911 as Durif. Concannon was one of the few wineries that was allowed to remain in operation during prohibition because the Catholic Church needed them to produce sacramental wines. As a result Concannon is one of the oldest continuously operated wineries in the country. Concannon is the second largest winery in the Livermore Valley and produces 30,000 cases annually.

Sources: Site visit March 26, 2009

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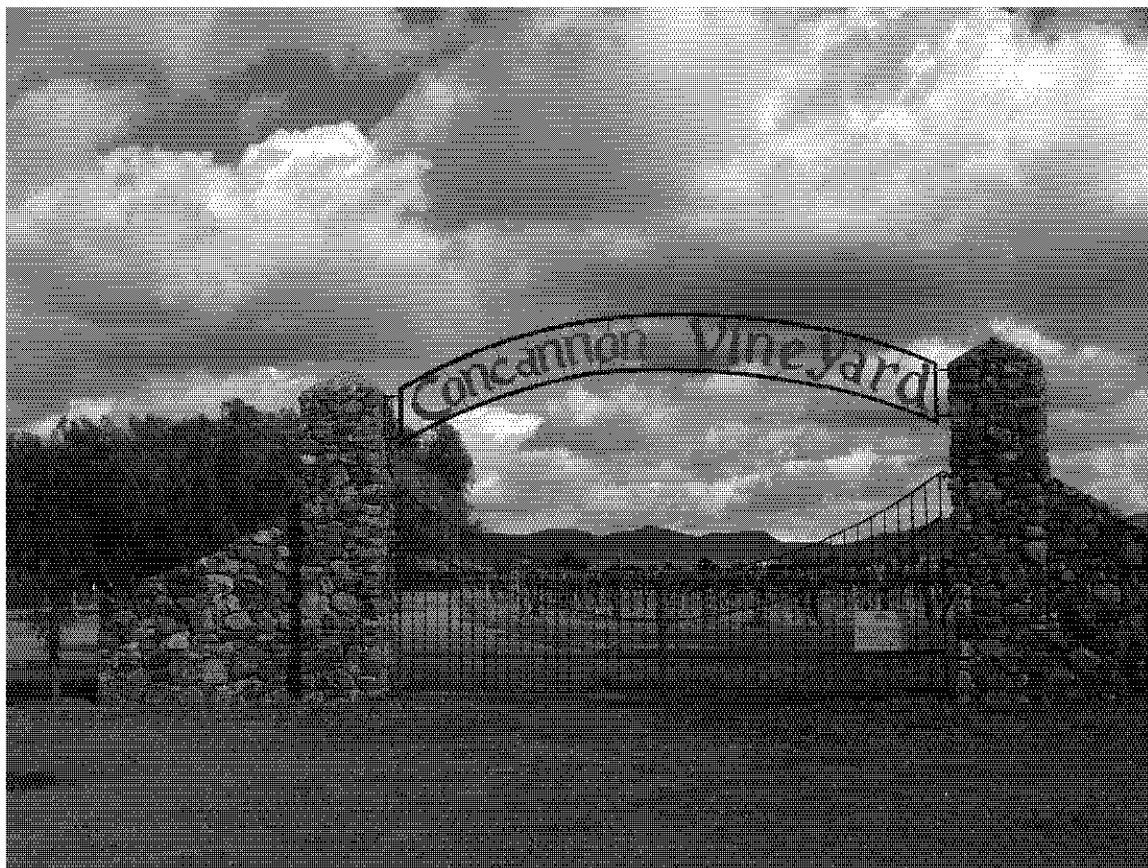
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<http://www.allbusiness.com/retail-trade/food-beverage-stores-beer-wine-liquor/413821-1.html>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concannon_Vineyard

<http://www.winecountrythisweek.com/site/article/519.html>

Historian: Chris Pattillo, Landscape Architect, July 25, 2009
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One of three stone gates at the corner of the Concannon property (Chris Pattillo taken March 26, 2009).



Rows of grape vines with historic brick and other winery buildings in the background (Chris Pattillo taken March 26, 2009).